



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #REN-19-047

### **TITLE: Providing Resiliency Continuity Funding for Homeland Security and Emergency Services to Tribal Governments**

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**PRESIDENT**  
**Jefferson Keel**  
*Chickasaw Nation*

**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**Aaron Payment**  
*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa  
Indians of Michigan*

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
**Juana Majel-Dixon**  
*Pauma Band Mission Indians*

**TREASURER**  
**W. Ron Allen**  
*Jamestown S'Kallam Tribe*

#### REGIONAL VICE- PRESIDENTS

**ALASKA**  
**Rob Sanderson, Jr.**  
*Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of  
Alaska*

**EASTERN OKLAHOMA**  
**Joe Byrd**  
*Cherokee Nation*

**GREAT PLAINS**  
**Larry Wright, Jr.**  
*Ponca Tribe of Nebraska*

**MIDWEST**  
**Shannon Holsey**  
*Stockbridge Munsee Band of  
Mohicans*

**NORTHEAST**  
**Lance Gumbs**  
*Shinnecock Indian Nation*

**NORTHWEST**  
**Leonard Forsman**  
*Suquamish Tribe*

**PACIFIC**  
**Brian Poncho**  
*Bishop Paiute Tribe*

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN**  
**VACANT**

**SOUTHEAST**  
**Nancy Carnley**  
*Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indians*

**SOUTHERN PLAINS**  
**Zach Pahmahmie**  
*Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation*

**SOUTHWEST**  
**Joe Garcia**  
*Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo*

**WESTERN**  
**Quintin C. Lopez**  
*Tohono O'odham Nation*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**KEVIN ALLIS**  
*FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI  
COMMUNITY*

**NCAI HEADQUARTERS**  
1516 P Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.466.7767  
202.466.7797 fax  
www.ncai.org

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, since the civil defense era, the Congress has provided funding to state governments and their political subdivisions for homeland security, emergency services, and public safety management; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, Congress established the first tribal homeland security grant program (THSGP) for a limited number of tribal nations (approximately 48 to 51), which has continued to be funded at 0.1 percent of the Non-Disaster Grants, meaning that on average Congress appropriates \$1.6 million for the THSGP and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through discretionary funds has increased the funding to \$10 million per year for the same limited number of the 573 federally recognized tribal nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the current THSGP has not met the minimum core capability needs in Indian country to ensure a secure nation and providing base-level funding to each federally recognized tribal nations to meet standards established by the government necessary to strengthen national security; and

**WHEREAS**, the a process of providing tribal shares for specific programs to ensure public and tribal safety and a rough estimate to meet the minimum national standards is roughly \$360,000 for each tribal nation; and

**WHEREAS**, providing flexibility in a program to allow for tribal self-determination and ensuring that tribal funding stays in Indian Country is a sound approach; and

**WHEREAS**, for every hundred dollars allocated in non-disaster funding to non-tribal governments there is \$0.62 allocated to Indian country; and

**WHEREAS**, the US Commission on Civil Rights recently released the report *Broken Promises: Continuing Federal Funding Shortfall for Native Americans* as an update to its 2003 report *A Quiet Crisis: Federal Funding and Unmet Needs in Indian Country*, which outlines the significant challenges facing tribal nations and organizations in providing the highest level of homeland security to ensure a secure country.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) calls on Congress to provide Resiliency Continuity Funding to each tribal nation for the development of core capabilities and capacities in homeland security and emergency services at a sufficient base level of funding; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NCAI is interested in working closely with the Department of Homeland Security in framing flexible approaches for Congressionally appropriated funding to meet national homeland security needs that result in enhanced tribal self-determination and increased national security; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

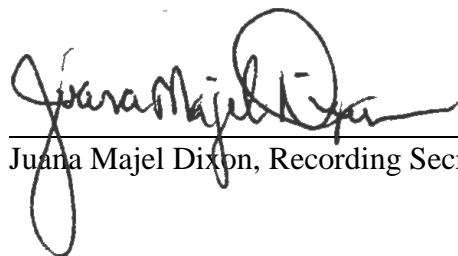
#### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2019 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Nugget Casino Resort, June 24-27, 2019, with a quorum present.



Jefferson Keel, President

**ATTEST:**



Juana Majel Dixon, Recording Secretary